



Brownfields 2007 Grant Fact Sheet

New Bedford, MA

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

The City of New Bedford was selected to receive a brownfields cleanup grant. The seventh largest city in Massachusetts, New Bedford (population 93,768) has a 20 percent poverty rate. The city's per capita income is 60 percent of the state average. Many of New Bedford's brownfields sites, including the Payne Cutlery property, are located in environmental justice neighborhoods. The presence of brownfields lowers residential property values and diminishes community pride. Industrially zoned real estate in New Bedford is scarce. Cleanup of the Payne Cutlery site will reduce the threat to public health and the environment and help return this vacant, underused industrial property to viable reuse. Redevelopment will enhance the city's job base and increase the tax base, thereby facilitating improvements to its infrastructure.



Cleanup Grant



\$200,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected the City of New Bedford for a brownfields cleanup grant. Grant funds will be used to clean up the former Payne Cutlery property at 295 Phillips Avenue. The site was used for cold pressing of steel, metal grinding, degreasing, and electroplating. Contaminants of concern include trichloroethene, tetrachloroethene, and metals. Funds will be used for cleanup planning, ground-water treatment, and the installation of sub-slab ventilation systems.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields.

EPA Region 1 Brownfields Team

617-918-1424

<http://www.epa.gov/region01/brownfields/>

Grant Recipient: City of New Bedford, MA
508-979-1487

The information presented in this fact sheet comes from the grant proposal; EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of this information. The cooperative agreement for the grant has not yet been negotiated. Therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.